



The 24TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL
Office of the Speaker

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 17, 2020

Navajo Nation Council plans second Special Session for Friday

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — A second Special Session of the 24th Navajo Nation Council will be held Friday, Mar. 20 at 10:00 AM. The Council will discuss new emergency legislation that provides funding and legislative support for the Nation's coronavirus (COVID-19) response efforts.

“The 24th Navajo Nation Council is working on an emergency funding package to both provide funding support to the Navajo Department of Health and Navajo Nation Chapters for COVID-19 response activities,” said Speaker Seth Damon. “The Council's response will be more comprehensive while being mindful of the Navajo Nation's limited resources.”

The Special Session will be held at the Department of Diné Education and will be closed to the general public to keep the number of physical attendees as low as possible. The Legislative Branch is adhering to guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention regarding social distancing and self-isolation.

As the COVID-19 outbreak reaches the Navajo Nation, the public is reminded that frequent hand-washing with bar soap for at least 20 seconds is part of the preventing the spread of the virus.

As of Tuesday, one confirmed case was reported by the Arizona Department of Health involving a member of the Navajo Nation. That individual has been transported to Phoenix for treatment and efforts are underway to ensure the relatives and those in close contact with the individual are isolated.

“It is important that everyone take precautionary measures to limit exposure at this critical moment. The Navajo Nation Council is working to provide necessary wide-scale funding to ready every part of the Nation,” said Health, Education, and Human Services Committee Chair Daniel Tso.

###

MEDIA CONTACTS

Rick Abasta, Communications Director, (928) 530-8197.

Byron C. Shorty, Sr. Public Information Officer, (928) 287-2085.

communications@navajo-nsn.gov